

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/809,928

Examiner

Rip A. Lee

Applicant(s)

ISEKI ET AL.

Art Unit

1713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to June 29, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 6 and 7.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-3, 6, and 7 are allowed over the closest references cited below.

The present invention is drawn to a copolymer of ethylene and α -olefin of from 4 to 20 carbon atoms having a MFR of from 2.0 to 100 g/10 min, an activation energy for melt flow of 60 kJ/mole or more, melt tension (MT), intrinsic viscosity $[\eta]$, and chain length (A) which satisfy formulae (1) to (3); see claims for complete details.

Another embodiment of the invention is a copolymer of ethylene and α -olefin of from 4 to 20 carbon atoms having a MFR of from 2.0 to 100 g/10 min, an activation energy for melt flow of 60 kJ/mole or more, melt tension (MT), intrinsic viscosity $[\eta]$, and characteristic relaxation time (τ) which satisfy formulae (1), (2), and (4); see claims for complete details.

Kokubo *et al.* (EP 640 627) teaches an copolymer derived from ethylene and 1-butene having an activation energy for melt flow of 78 kJ/mole, a MFR of 1 g/10 min, and a melt tension of 6.5.

Howard *et al.* (U.S. 6,258,912) discloses a copolymer of ethylene and 1-hexene having a melt flow rate of from 1.6 g/10 min and an activation energy for melt flow of 70.81 kJ/mole.

Kanda *et al.* (U.S. 5,700,895) discloses a copolymer derived from ethylene and 1-butene having an activation energy for melt flow of 78 kJ/mole, a MFR of 1 g/10 min, and a melt tension of 6.5.

None of these references discloses a ethylene/C₄-C₂₀ α -olefin having the properties recited in the instant claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Additional Prior Art

The prior art made of record but not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure. The additional references cited in the accompanying PTO-892 disclose polymers that have been characterized by activation energy of melt flow and/or melt index or other parameters. It is deemed that none of these references teaches or remotely suggests manufacture of the polymers of the instant claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rip A. Lee whose telephone number is (571)272-1104. The examiner can be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu, can be reached at (571)272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>>. Should you have questions on the access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

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July 12, 2006



DAVID W. WU

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
EBC CENTER 1700